

Message Text

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VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, UN
SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: SUMMARY OF 55TH MEETING:
DECEMBER 17, 1976

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

1. SUMMARY: COMMITTEE TOOK ACTION ON FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF
(1) DRAFT RESOLUTION RE MEETINGS ON CONSITUION FOR UNIDO AS
SPECIALIZED AGENCY AND (2) EXTENSION OF MANDATE OF AD HOC
COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING. RESUMING DISCUSSION ON UN PENSION
SYSTEM, (1) ADOPTED CUBAN RESOLUTION (L.38) REQUESTING SYG
ENSURE THAT RESOURCES WHICH UNJSP FUND HOLDS INVESTED IN SHARES
OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS BE INVESTED DIRECTLY IN DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES ON SAFE AND PROFITABLE TERMS, (2) AGREED TO AMEND
REGULATIONS AND RULES OF PENSION FUND TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP
FROM SIX TO NINE; LEAVING FOR DECISION ONLY THE BELGIAN/FRENCH
DRAFT DECISION (L.53). COMMITTEE COMMENCED DISCUSSION OF
UTILIZATION OF DONAUPARK IN VIENNA AND HEARD THAT GA WOULD
HAVE TO BE EXTENDED TO PERMIT FIFTH COMMITTEE ACT ON
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AT LEAST FIFTEEN OF ITS REMAING 21ITEMS. END SUMMARY

2. ITEM 92, PB SECTION 12-UNIDO. AFTER INTRODUCTION BY ACABQ
CHAIRMAN MSELLE OF ITS REPORT, WITHOUT OBJECTION COMMITTEE DECIDED
TO INFORM GA THAT,SHOULD IT ADOPT DRAFT RESOLUTION IN
A/C.2/31/L.80, AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 WOULD

BE NEEDED TO HOLD MEETINGS NEXT YEAR ON A CONSTITUTION FOR UNIDO AS A SPECIALIZED AGENCY. USSR (BRODSKY) EXPRESSED DISAGREEMENT WITH "LARGE-SCALE PRACTICE OF THIS YEAR" OF APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN VIOLATION OF PRINCIPLE OF PROGRAM BUDGETING AND SAID, HAD THERE BEEN A VOTE ON SUM IN QUESTION, HE WOULD HAVE VOTED AGAINST.

3. ITEM 66 -DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION; FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION IN A/C.2/31/L.84 ON EXTENSION OF MANDATE AND THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING. AFTER INTRODUCTION OF ITS REPORT BY ACABQ CHAIRMAN MSELLE, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO INFORM THE GA THAT, SHOULD IT ADOPT THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IN L.84, NO ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION WOULD BE REQUIRED.

4. ITEM 104-UN PENSION SYSTEM.

(A) COMMITTEE RESUMED DISCUSSION. THE NICARAGUAN DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/C.5/31/L.48) HAD NOT YET BEEN DISTRIBUTED, AND NICARAGUA ASKED THAT VOTING ON CUBAN RESOLUTION (A/C.5/31/L.38) BE DELAYED UNTIL COMMITTEE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO SEE BOTH RESOLUTIONS. US(KUTTNER) SAID PENSION BOARD HAS INCREASED ITS INVESTMENTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ASKED CUBA NOT TO PRESS ITS RESOLUTION TO VOTE. NETHERLANDS SAID NICARAGUAN RESOLUTION IS PREFERABLE AND THAT INTERESTS OF STAFF MEMBERS ARE OF PARAMOUNT INTEREST. CUBA INSISTED ON PRESSING HIS RESOLUTION TO VOTE, AND DELEGATES OF ALGERIA, GREECE, GHANA, UPPER VOLTA, AND TRINIDAD/TOBAGO SAID THEY WOULD VOTE IN FAVOR. THE US, UK, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, ITALY, JAPAN ALL SAID THEY WOULD VOTE AGAINST. BY VOTE OF 34 IN FAVOR (SOV BLOC)-26 AGAINST (US, UNCLASSIFIED

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WEO'S EXCEPT GREECE)-22 ABSTENTAINING (CHINA, NIGERIA, SINGAPORE) THE CUBAN DRAFT RESOLUTION L.38 WAS ADOPTED. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION BY ALGERIA, UN CONTROLLER DEBATIN SAID THAT PENSION FUND LAST YEAR HAD SHOWN A NET GAIN OF \$11 MILLION FROM SALES OF SECURITIES. NICARAGUAN RESOLUTION WAS DISTRIBUTED TO COMMITTEE, AND BY VOTE OF 23 IN FAVOR-29 AGAINST (US, SOV BLOC)-22 ABSTENTIONS, COMMITTEE DECIDED NOT TO CONSIDER IT. BELGIUM (PIRSON) THEN INTRODUCED ITS DRAFT DECISION (A/C.5/31/L.47) WHICH WOULD AS INTERIM MEASURE (UNTIL PENSION BOARD'S PROPOSALS ARE ACTED UPON AT 33RD SESSION) PROVIDE INCREASES FOR PENSIONERS WHOSE BASIC BENEFITS ARE LESS THAN \$5,000 A YEAR. US (KUTTNER) ASKED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT NUMBER OF PENSIONERS INVOLVED AND ITS ACTUARIAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. OTHERS ASSOCIATING THEMSELVES WITH US WERE UK (WHO SAID IT WOULD MEAN INCREASE OF 100 PERCENT FOR THOSE RECEIVING LESS THAN \$5,000 AND WOULD PREJUDICE STUDIES BY THE BOARD), PAKISTAN (WHO SAID IT DID NOT DISTINGUISH

BETWEEN THOSE WHO RECEIVED PENSIONS IN ADDITION TO UN BENEFITS); TRINIDAD/TOBAGO; UPPER VOLTA (WHO WOULD RETAIN OPEN MIND PENDING ANSWERS). ALGERIA ASKED BELGIUM TO WITHDRAW ITS DRAFT DECISION, WHICH HE AGREED TO DO. THEN FRANCE (DERRE) SAID SHE WOULD RESUBMIT IT AS FRENCH DECISION. KENYA HOPED THAT BELGIUM/FRENCH REVISED DECISION (L.53) WOULD OVERCOME THE ANOMALIES OF THE ORIGINAL. ONLY PHILIPPINES (GARRIDO) SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT BELGIAN PROPOSAL FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS. COMMITTEE AGREED, AT SUGGESTION OF ACTING CHAIRMAN MOLteni, TO SEND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ON PENSION SYSTEM TO GA AND LEAVE THIS QUESTION OPEN FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. USYG FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT DAVIDSON READ LETTER FROM TWO STAFF COUNCILS AT HEADQUARTERS WHICH STATED THAT THE UN AND UNDP STAFF COUNCILS "DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES TOTALLY FROM THE VIEWS AND THREATS CONTAINED IN THE COMMUNICATIONS READ (EARLIER) BY MR. DAVIDSON" AND CONCURRED WITH ACABQ RECOMMENDATIONS TO DEFER THE MATTER OF PENSIONS.

(B) MEMBERSHIP OF INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE. WITHOUT OBJECTION, UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMITTEE DECIDED TO INCREASE FROM SIX TO NINE THE MEMBERSHIP IN INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE (SYG REPORT A/C.5:31/28)BY AMENDING ARTICLE 20 OF REGULATIONS AND RULES OF PENSION FUND.

5. ITEM 99(A) - UTILIZATION OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES AT DONAUPARK CENTRE IN VIENNA. CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED INDIA, INDONESIA, CYPRUS, BANGLADESH, AND PORTUGAL HAD HOINED CO-SPONSORS OF A/C.5/31/L.45 (THE SO-CALLED AUSTRIAN RESOLUTION). AUSTRIA (KLESTIL) OPENING DEBATE, SAID SECRETARIAT HAD ENDEAVORED TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE SOLUTION. HE REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF DONAUPARK PROJECT; SAID AUSTRIA WAS OBLIGED TO PROVIDE PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS ACCOMMODATION AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES IN VIENNA FOR UNIDO AND IAEA; IT HAD REDUCED UN ESTIMATE OF ACCOMMODATION FROM 7,053 PERSONS TO 4,500; AND IN PROVIDING OFFICE SPACE AT ITS OWN EXPENSE FOR 4,500 PEOPLE CONSIDERED ITS OBLIGATIONS VIS-A-VIS UN AND IAEA FULFILLED AND TERMINATED. IT WAS UP TO N TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATION. THE COST OF DONAUPARK, IN SUM OF \$700 MILLION, WILL BE BORNE BY AUSTRIA AND CITY OF VIENNA; BUILDINGS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO UN RENT-FREE AT NOMINAL RATE OF ONE SCHILLING (6 CENTS) A YEAR. IT IS A CENTRAL CONCERN OF FOREIGN POLICY OF AUSTRIA TO OFFER INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY A VARIETY OF SERVICES AND GOOD OFFICES. TRANSFER OF 500 PROFESSIONALS OVER FIVE YEARS WOULD IN NO WAY DETRACT FROM POSITION OF NY AND GENEVA AS UN HEADQUARTERS. DECISION RE TRANSFERS SHOULD BE FULLY JUSTIFIED ON GROUNDS OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC LOGIC. AUSTRIA COULD NOT AGREE TO ANY REDUCTION IN FIVE-YEAR PLAN OR OF 500PROFESSIONALS DESTINED FOR VIENNA, AND ASKED FOR ENDORSEMENT

OF SYG'S THINKING ABOUT SPECIFIC UNITS TO BE TRANSFERRED.
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT TRANSFER OF OLD ESTABLISHED BODIES
LIKE CONFERENCE OF COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CCD) WOULD
BE BE DIFFICULT FOR PRESENT HOST COUNTRIES AS WELL AS FOR OTHERS
TO ACCEPT, BUT STATED THAT IT WILL BE FOR MEMBERS OF CCD TO TAKE
DECISION IN MATTER. SAID TRANSFER OF UN UNITS FROM NY AND
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GENEVA IS ALSO A POLITICAL DECISION AND THAT IT IS TIME TO
TAKE A DECISION (COPY OF STATEMENT BEING POUCHED IO/IBC-HENNES).

6. PROGRAM OF WORK. USYG DAVIDSON TOLD COMMITTEE THAT IT
WOULD BE ESSENTIAL FOR IT TO DEAL WITH FIFTEEN TOPICS
OUT OF A TOTAL REMAINING OF 21 BEFORE IT COULD COMPLETE
THIS YEAR'S SESSION, THAT HE HAD INFORMED USYG FOR POLITICAL
AND GA AFFAIRS BUFFUM THAT COMMITTEE COULD NOT FINISH ON
TIME, AND THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER AT
LEAST A ONE-DAY EXTENSION OF 31ST GA.
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